

The **Parks and Recreation Board** met Monday, July 21, 2014, 4:30pm, at the Parks office. Present at said meeting were Karen Springer, John MacDonald, Jeff Love and Aimee Jacobsen. Joe Payne, Lee Booth, Bess Witcosky, Dan Dunten and Cheryl Kolb represented the department. Absent was Park Board Member, Pat Flannelly and Park Board Attorney, Andy Gutwein, along with department staff, Pennie Ainsworth and Chris Foley. Also absent was Council President, Ann Hunt.

Karen convened the Board at 4:33pm.

The first item of the agenda was the approval of the minutes from the June 16, 2014 meeting. John motioned to approve the minutes. Jeff seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Superintendent – Joe reported on the following:

- Noted the Council Report had been distributed
- Reported six picnic tables have been loaned to Food Finders for their summer feeding program and will be returned later.
- There will be QC Construction driving into Tapawingo Park, and under the bridges. They will be boring a new Comcast line under the Wabash to get it off the Meyers Bridge, for the construction set to begin in the area.
- Joe noted he granted access to Indiana American Water's contractor, ECI, to reroute a water line being relocated because of the Happy Hollow Road project, slightly into our park property. This avoids having to cut a huge tree and relocate a power pole that delivers power to one of the shelter areas and future lighting along the trail. It will eventually be an official easement, presented at a future Park Board meeting, once Andy has had the time to review.
- We have contractors on board for the Cattail Trail construction from Yeager Road to Cumberland Road. Milestone will be doing the trail work. It is looking like Reith-Riley will be awarded the contract for the Happy Hollow Road project. Both projects will not be fully completed until next year.

Assistant Superintendent – n/a

Parks – Lee reported on the following:

- Inspections are available
- Still working on making shelters more accessible in Happy Hollow Park
- New spinner cup was installed in the 2-5 year old area of Happy Hollow Park playground
- Prepared Tapawingo Park for Riverfest and Dancing and Cruising in the Streets
- Other repairs and routine maintenance throughout the parks

Jeff inquired about the Community Bay Boathouse. Discussion followed.

Recreation – n/a

Morton Center – Bess reported on the following:

- Our Summer Theatre Workshop performance of James and the Giant Peach will be held at 7pm on Friday, August 1, in the Morton Multipurpose Room. Tickets are \$3-Adults and \$1-Children.
- Morton Instructor, Jeannette Rehmel, participated in the recent “Pianos for the Street”. She painted the piano that resides on Northwestern by the West Lafayette Public Library. The title of the piano is “Concert in Monet’s Garden” and has an interactive element that allows non-players to tap out “You are my Sunshine”. The piano will be outside until July 28, and then will reside at Morton. There was also a nice article in the Journal & Courier.
- West Lafayette Health Promotions Committee kicked off the Summer Trail Trek on our trails system. Each tag has a word or two on it. Participants receive a trail guide and clue sheet that help them locate and log the different tags. Once they are completed, the clues will form two quotes about healthy living. The Trek is currently open to West Lafayette employees and runs through August 22.

Stewardship – Dan reported on the following:

West Lafayette street trees and West Lafayette Tree Friends activities

- This spring we trimmed 1,148 street trees (those between the sidewalk and the street). This involved removing branches hanging over sidewalks and roads, for safety reasons and for the health of the trees.
- There are 784 Ash street trees, including 55 which are infected and scheduled to be removed. Others have already been removed, and several more will need to be removed over the next few years, due to the Emerald Ash Borer.
- We will be able to have 100 young trees planted this fall and next spring along West Lafayette streets, a result of grants and donations.

Eagle Scout Projects – I am working with two Boy Scouts this summer on projects that will help them qualify for their Eagle Scout ranking. We have one project that is almost completed. This scout obtained free wood chips from Bellinger’s and has spread them over our nearly ¼-mile savanna trail. He will also be installing a bench that he built along one of the trails near the wetlands.

Old Business

Joe mentioned the barn painting, painted by Jacqueline Garrison, which used to hang behind the Judge and the Council members (in the old Council Chambers), and then eventually moved to Morton; noting the picture has been reclaimed, and now hangs in the Parks office between the two restrooms.

New Business

Budget

Joe distributed budget information, giving a brief overview of what he and Pennie presented last week, offering to answer any questions the Board might have. Discussion followed.

John asked for an update follow up on the Northwestern Heights property (Garden St. area). Joe reported it appears Mimi Boutin has contracted some planting along the sidewalk. Our Engineering Intern has put together a plan for concrete work, which Joe received last Thursday. Joe will have to get pricing from contractors so the Redevelopment Commission can consider funding the concrete work. The City Attorney will provide her with a letter that explains anything put on the City property is subject to removal.

West Lafayette School Board – Karen reported the following:

- Joe mentioned having the pool hours advertised on the sign at Happy Hollow School was very nice. Karen agreed and noted Chris had suggested it, and that it had worked out well.
- Preparing for the upcoming school year with the hiring of all necessary staff due to retirements and increased enrollments.

Wabash River

- Joe reported a meeting is scheduled for this Thursday. He also noted Riverfest was only able to take place from 9am-12pm before being canceled by the Fire Department due to inclement weather. Discussion followed.

Other

n/a

Pay Claims

Jeff motioned for claims to be paid. Aimee seconded the motion, and the motion carried.

Adjourn

Jeff motioned to adjourn the meeting. John seconded the motion, and the meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.

Presiding Officer

Secretary

File:Cheryl/2014Park Board Minutes/Minutes#06/June2014